FIELD (MSW) SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIVERSITY SPECIALIZATION 2019-20

Field (MSW) Coordinator: Prof. Stephanie Begun stephanie.begun@utoronto.ca (interim coordinator)  
(Prof. Rupaleem Bhuyan on sabbatical until July 2019)

Core Faculty List: Pros. Stephanie Begun, Rupaleem Bhuyan, Carman Logie, Izumi Sakamoto, Charmaine Williams

Required Course Offerings for Social Justice and Diversity

SWK 4304H Globalization & Trans-nationalization: Intersections of Policy & Community Practice Locally Globally  
SWK 4306H Theoretical Approaches to Defining Social Injustice and Engaging in Social Change  
SWK 4512H Research Knowledge for Social Justice  
SWK 4606H Diversity, Access and Equity in Social Work Practice  
Two half-credit graduate level electives  
SWK 4702Y Social Work Practicum II

MSW Program with Advanced Standing complete the above courses plus, the compulsory course:  
SWK 4510H Research for Evidence-Based Social Work Practice. SWK 4510H must be completed before taking any of the research courses in the specialization. Students take this course in the first terms of the MSW Program.

Related Elective Choices  
SWK4629H Social Work Practice with Aboriginal Peoples  
SWK4643H Special Topics - Narrative Therapy  
SWK4658H Social Work with Immigrants and Refugees

Practicum Examples (varies every year depending on supervisor availability)*  
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services  
Agincourt Community Services Association  
Bain Avenue Cooperative – Kitchen Project  
Bond Child and Family Development  
Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT)  
Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)  
Children's Aid Society of Toronto  
Family Service Toronto  
Flemingdon Health Centre  
LOFT  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
Mount Sinai Hospital  
Native Men's Residence  
North York General Hospital  
Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration  
Safehaven  
Scarborough Women's Centre  
Schizophrenia Society of Ontario  
The Stop Community Food Centre
Toronto Catholic District School Board
York University Counseling Services

*These are examples of practicums – offered most years but not every year depending on supervisor availability

Career Prospects:
MSW graduates from the Social Justice & Diversity field of study work in a range of settings including health and mental health, education, social support, child and family services, disability assistance, criminal justice, immigrant settlement, substance use, housing, gerontology, and Aboriginal services. The majority of MSW graduates in this field work in community-based, non-for profit organizations, government or public work settings, community-based health centres, and public education.

Specific job roles and responsibilities of graduates from Social Justice & Diversity include: direct practice (e.g., counseling, case management), community development, advocacy, administration, project management, communication, and research. MSW graduates usually start in front-line, contract positions.

FAQ’s:

When do I declare my field of study?
Year 1 of 2-year MSW: Submit your form to the Registrar, normally at the beginning of February
http://socialwork.utoronto.ca/current-students/forms/
Advanced Standing MSW: Indicate field of study when applying for admission to the program.

Who do I contact for advice on field of study selection?
Your faculty advisor. Advisors are assigned to students by the Associate Dean, Academic’s Office. Notification is by e-mail at the start of September. If you do not know who your advisor is, e-mail Natasha Valentine:

n.valentine@utoronto.ca

Can I take core courses offered in other fields of study to count as my electives?
Students are encouraged to identify courses offered in other fields to supplement their learning in a particular area of practice (i.e., gerontology, mental health, management) to deepen learning in relation to their practicum or future practice goals. Check with the Faculty Registrar sharon.bewell@utoronto.ca to see whether there is space in another field of study course prior to the start of the term the course is offered. Typically, we will know if there is room in a course by the end of July for Fall Session courses and by the end of November for January Session courses.

What social work skills can I expect to gain from this field of study?
Social Justice and Diversity fosters critical thinking and critical practice skills to address social inequality, exclusion and marginalization within Canada’s diverse population. Courses in this field of study draw from a range of critical social work knowledge including: structural, feminist, anti-racist, indigenous, and anti-oppressive theories and approaches. Students will explore historic, contemporary, and transnational dimensions of oppression towards fostering social change, equity, and empowerment.

Working from a social justice and anti-oppressive lens, students will develop core skills related to observation, assessment, self-awareness, critical thinking, oral and written communication. Students will also learn skills related to intergroup dialogue, advocacy, community mobilization, policy analysis and policy advocacy; and research proposal writing. Critical reflexivity and praxis are key elements.